

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

November-December

December 11, 2013

Happy holidays to all!

Library Budget Update:

- The Kaiser Northern CA grant to support 211 Yolo services will come to a close in December 2013. We have indicators from 211 CA director Lilian Coral, that Kaiser is anticipating continuing support of 211 services. That support would enable us to continue call center services with the same contract through 2014.
- The Friends of the Davis Public Library received a grant of \$3000 from Best Buy to establish a digital literacy support program based on gaming technology to be implemented at The Stop, the afterschool program for the tween age group afterschool. The Stop attracts up to 40 youth daily and in partnership with the Library and the Friends, City of Davis Teen Services staff and interns provide engaging activities that stimulate mind and body for this age group.
- The Library is still working on MOU plans with DESS to develop one stop efforts at Davis and Esparto which would bring comprehensive services to those communities.
- DESS and the Health Department are working on shifting service to RISE in Winters based on compatible service goals and community engagement. This may include moving WIC services to RISE FRC.
- A third security provider has been tapped for a quote. The staff hope to conduct a comparison in mid December/early January to coincide with security consultant, Ed Otis' training on January 21.
- Patty Wong and Winters Mayor Cecilia Aguiar visited Computers for Classrooms in Chico, the largest recycler of computer equipment in CA. Director Pat Furr and her team of staff and employers gather equipment from all State of CA entities and many school districts and private corporations and refurbish them with state of the art current technology and applications for reuse in the classroom and libraries and for re-distribution to low income students and families. The program teaches a trade to volunteers and is a successful community engagement model; for 50 hours of volunteer service, individuals can get a quality computer system including color monitor for \$50. Most basic models are available for \$85 up to \$250; for \$15 more, wifi can be installed. The Library will be hosting a field trip to Computers for Classrooms in early/mid January for Yolo County Housing, additional Library staff, County IT and any others who wish to visit the operation. Mayor Aguiar and the Library hope to host a community fair to engage families in the group purchase of computers for home use. Since Computers for Classrooms refurbish laptops as well as a smaller group of Apple products this may be an ideal resource for us

for alternative equipment for Adult Literacy, Homework Help and perhaps even some of our standard computer needs. Computers for Classrooms is an authorized Microsoft dealer and has all of the equipment to completely wipe hard drive memories and provide reporting of that activity. The nonprofit is supported by the full recycling of precious metals and other pieces not utilized in the refurbishing.

- The Yolo County Archives Coordinator Meredith Sarmento will be introduced to the Board at the 12/17 meeting and she will provide an update to the Preservation Plan.
- Thanks to Branch Manager Rachel Wolf, the Discover & Go Program was released on December 1 to much fanfare.

Broadband

From the Yolo County press release: Yolo County has hired Magellan Advisors to analyze the local broadband internet infrastructure and “assess future needs and identify strategies to meet those needs,” the company reports.

The study is being commissioned by Yolo County’s Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) in conjunction with the cities of West Sacramento, Davis, Winters and Woodland.

The resulting plan will “provide Yolo County with a roadmap to strengthen broadband in its community through evaluation of wise public investments in infrastructure, broadband-oriented public policy, strategic public-private partnerships, and collaboration with stakeholders, community anchor institutions and service providers,” said a statement from Magellan Advisors.

Update: Patty Wong, along with representatives from Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, Woodland, and County IT have formed an advisory team working with Christine Crawford from LAFCo to guide Magellan Advisors’ scope of work and next steps.

Google: The Esparto/Capay Valley has caught the eye of Google’s “Celerate” <http://techwire.net/google-surprises-yet-another-broadband-access-grant-rural-communities/>

Google.org, the philanthropic effort of Google, is working with De Novo Group out of Berkeley to seek a rural community within 250 miles of Berkeley and to bring affordable broadband service to residents and potentially businesses. More information will be forthcoming.

MME connectivity: Dr. Kim Wallace is proceeding to reach a workaround to provide infrastructure for connectivity at Marguerite Montgomery Elementary which would enhance the Library’s ability to better serve South Davis residents.

Dr. Wallace will be working with the Library's IT lead Kim Sheppard and County IT networking lead Tom Bates for the install. No word on a timeline yet.

Friends Update: The various Friends of the Libraries are preparing for their annual meetings and the change in leadership. Patty Wong and Elizabeth Gray are eager to provide ***Yolo County Library 101 training*** to all new and returning leaders that highlight policies and procedures, operations, and the Library's budget, and the Friends role and relationship with respective Library services.

The Friends' Annual meetings are wonderful ways to create and cultivate stronger networking, engagement and support among all Friends members; the Library strongly encourages mutual attendance at each planned event to learn more.

Library staff will distribute and highlight a calendar of Friends events for advanced planning.

Yolo Branch Library:

Capital Fundraising: Mary Stephens DeWall has been meeting with President Meg Sheldon and Patty Wong and various community leaders (Twyla Thompson and Lynelle Pollock and Duane Chamberlain) to discuss active fundraising and key individuals and families to approach.

Grant writing: The subteam has developed a small targeted description for Patty Wong to use in cultivating some grant writing among students in her grant writing class.

Membership: Each community will establish a membership drive and outreach activity to build memberships. This will include the Yolo and surrounding communities Enchilada Dinner to kick off the effort in later January. Talking points have been provided to all Board members

501(C) (3) status: Patty Wong is working with volunteer Charles Mack to learn more about the process and finalize the paperwork and application process.

South Davis Update: The South Davis Library Services Ad Hoc Committee, a Board of Supervisors entity, met again on December 9 to discuss survey questions to indicate current and future use, establishment of a South Davis service area and next steps. Current members include Supervisors Provenza and Saylor and their deputies, Gina Daleiden and Diane Parro, LAB representatives Holly Bishop and Sharon Hallberg; MME representatives Nora Brazil (school library media teacher) and Melissa Bain (parent), community member Adam Sutkus and South Davis business owner Son Chong (Common Grounds). The Committee still seeks engagement with City of Davis staff.

Design Thinking: The Library continues to work with consultants from the Stanford Design School <http://dschool.stanford.edu/dgift/> to work on some key activities and prototyping on youth engagement crafted by area youth from Davis, Esparto, Winters and Woodland. The CORE team (Sue Billing and Crista Cannariato from Davis, Sara Ferguson representing the rural branches, Gail Stovall from West Sacramento and Val Manning from County HR) is working to provide some adult guidance and support for the teen engagement in three areas: youth driven engagement at a local level (Esparto and Yolo Branches); portable makerspace activities; and youth voice and community action. Youth engagement activities were successful at Yolo with eight very engaged local teens and plans are being made for a similar experience at Esparto. Makerspace activities are in design with some testing with the original teens planned soon. A team of two youth are engaged in developing a proposal for a youth commission in the City of Winters and have met with key community leaders to test out the idea – a meeting has already been scheduled with the Mayor of Winters to develop the plan for next steps. The CORE team meets every Monday with the consultant team and will send a smaller group to meet with the two other library systems – San Jose Public Library and Rancho Cucamonga Library – to share the work and results. The group may be issued opportunities for a grant to engage respective library communities.

Human Resources: The Library's Policy Team continues to work with County HR examine the Library organization and plan for current and future needs, looking at existing strengths and assets, immediate and long term goals, community and staff desires and objectives, Board of Supervisor and Library Advisory Board vision and direction. Initial discussion has revolved around current responsibilities and meetings, organizational goals and identifying potential overlap.

Current status:

Margaret Kaplan has been selected as the Clarksburg Branch Library Supervisor effective December 1, 2013.

211 Yolo Intern – under review by County HR – 3 candidates have been identified

Records Center - .50 FTE Library Assistant – recruitment completed; selection process to be initiated in late January/early February

Substitute (Extra-help) Librarian – applications received

211 Yolo Services:

“ Yolo County Library provides access for all to ideas that inform, entertain and inspire.”

Tagline: We connect people and ideas.